

SFSU English Department Mtg. MINUTES  
Thursday, May 26, 2016  
10-11 a.m./ HUM 484

Attending: P. Abeywickrama, J. Arin, E. Chan, K.L. Ching, W. Christmas, J. Gilligan, S. Goen-Salter, G. Green, R. Kohls, W.L. Kwok, J. Lederer, N. Lindeman, T. Lockhart, P. Morris, L. Motai, J. Mylander, D. Olsher, E. Peel, E. Remick, M. Roberge, M. Santos, G. Shahani, A. Smirnova, S. Star, L. Wardley, L. Yim

- I. Welcome – S. Goen-Salter thanked everyone for coming, including staff and volunteers. The department's second annual commencement ceremony will take place directly after this meeting.
- II. Recognitions –
  - a. Congratulations to Jim Gilligan on completing his first SFSU year.
  - b. Congratulations to Robert Kohls and Anastasia Smirnova on completing their first semesters.
    - i. Robert Kohls announced Eng 670, which prepares undergraduates for graduate-level writing. It will be available in fall of 2016 and is open to majors and non-majors.
- III. New Faculty –
  - a. Angela Jones will be joining Literature Faculty in fall, upon retreating from her CEL position at SFSU's downtown office.
  - b. Kathleen De Guzman (Vanderbilt Univ.), specialist in Global Anglophone Literature, will be joining Faculty in fall.
- IV. CFA – Many thanks to Georgia Gero-Chen for her role in helping to ensure a successful negotiation for faculty raises this semester.
- V. Departmental Presentation to New Dean –
- VI. Many thanks to Jace Allen for creating a Powerpoint presentation from faculty and staff comments and suggestions (January meeting). The Powerpoint, which outlines all English programs and features student activities as well as faculty and staff members, was sent to the new LCA Dean.
- VII. New LCA Dean Andrew Harris – will begin mid- July.
- VIII. Good News – At a recent campus event recognizing senior athletes, 25% of the athletes reported that their most influential class while at SFSU was English 114. Sugie thanked Tara Lockhart and the Composition faculty for the great work they do.
- IX. Faculty Support & Mentoring Committee – Maricel Santos and Lyn Motai (co-chairs) gave a presentation on what the new committee has accomplished in its first year, including composing a mission statement, and instituting regular faculty coffee meetings in the English Reception Room. Following is the mission statement:

*Faculty support is an essential component of high-quality learning environments and student success.*

*The English Department's Faculty Support and Mentoring Committee (FSMC) is dedicated to helping all faculty thrive as teachers, scholars, and colleagues. The FSMC advocates for resources that strengthen teaching effectiveness and innovation, promote scholarly and creative activities, and provide opportunities for service to the University.*

*In a non-evaluative and non-supervisory capacity, the FSMC is committed to facilitating opportunities for informal mentoring of faculty seeking support on teaching and learning-related issues. The FSMC believes that its ultimate mission is to promote a culture of mutually beneficial skills-sharing and networking among English Department faculty.*

- X. Redesign of English BA—
  - a. All tenured and tenure-track faculty should have received a PDF copy of our recently awarded Teagle Grant (\$10K).
    - i. Sugie asked all faculty to read the grant carefully.
    - ii. At stake:
      - 1. Our current BA is out of compliance with CSU because concentrations need to share 50% of units.
      - 2. Our ultimate goal is to create a single BA in English with four concentrations, which will share a core curriculum.
      - 3. We need to include TPW as one of our concentrations.
      - 4. To reach the goal: develop Core Curriculum and Learning Outcomes.
      - 5. TEAGLE kickoff event –
        - a. **Faculty Retreat on Monday, Aug. 22 from 9-2 p.m.** in the English suite. Breakfast and lunch will be served.
        - b. This is an opportunity to reinvigorate & re-think our English bachelor's degree. Everyone's input is encouraged and welcome.
- XI. Departmental RTP (Retention, Tenure & Promotion) Policy Revision –
  - a. Many thanks to the English Advisory Board (EAB) and subcommittee for their exhaustive work in rewriting our departmental RTP policy (the last update was from 2008).
    - i. An important goal of the new document is to communicate our own RTP criteria to our candidates.
    - ii. SFSU is demanding more from RTP candidates but not necessarily supporting them—we want our in-house document to support candidates as much as possible.
  - b. Tenured and tenure-track faculty have been sent copies of the final draft.
    - i. Kindly read during summer and be ready to engage in discussion in fall.
  - c. Timeline: ratify as a department and present to new dean this fall, for use in Fall 2017.
- XII. Other Business – RTP candidates coming up in fall 2016 need to be aware that a new system requiring ELECTRONIC WPAFs will be in place. Information to follow.

Meeting was adjourned at 11 a.m. Faculty attending the English commencement were asked to convene at Knuth Hall at 11:30 to help organize students. Commencement is at 12:30 followed by a reception in HUM directly afterward.